## **CLAIMS**

 A method for manufacturing an SOI wafer comprising the steps of forming an insulating layer on at least one wafer of two starting wafers; and

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adhering the one wafer to the other wafer without an adhesive,
wherein there is used as the starting wafer a wafer having no line
defect on a surface thereof.

A method for manufacturing an SOI wafer comprising the steps of:
 forming an insulating layer on at least one wafer of the two starting wafers; and

adhering the one wafer to the other wafer without an adhesive,
wherein the starting wafer is subjected to high temperature heat
treatment in advance.

- 15 3. The method for manufacturing an SOI wafer according to claim 2, wherein the high temperature heat treatment is carried out at a high temperature of 1100°C or higher.
  - 4. The method for manufacturing an SOI wafer according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the method comprises the steps of:
- forming an insulating layer on at least one wafer of the two starting wafers;

implanting hydrogen ions or rare gas ions through the upper surface of the one wafer to form a micro-bubble layer in the interior of the one wafer; thereafter

bringing the surface of the one wafer through which the ions have

been implanted into close contact with the other wafer through the insulating layer interposed therebetween; then

delaminating a part of the one wafer with the micro-bubble layer as a cleavage plane by applying heat treatment for the rest thereof to become a thin film; and

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bonding strongly the one wafer in the form of a thin film to the other wafer through the insulating layer interposed therebetween by applying further heat treatment.

- 5. The method for manufacturing an SOI wafer according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein surfaces of wafers each to be used as the starting wafer of the SOI wafer are inspected with respect of a line defect to sort line defect free wafers for use.
  - 6. The method for manufacturing an SOI wafer according to claim 5, wherein the inspection of the line defect is carried out with a laser microscope with a confocal optical system.